

Amazement and surprize stopped Selima; a sudden tremor shook her whole frame; and before she could recover herself, a thin mist arising from the river, condensed into a cloud and covered her entirely from the view of her companion. A pleasing slumber stole upon her senses, and when she awoke, she found herself upon the highest peak of mount Taurus: she had scarce time for recollection, when one of those benevolent genii, who preside over the good and virtuous, thus addressed her.

I have saved thee, O Selima, if not from ruin, yet at least from the extremest danger: the importunities of Zara would at length have prevailed; and wine, music, and the softest tales of love, would justly have contributed to thy undoing. Those objects which affect the senses strike more strongly, and numbers rest there without looking farther, or considering the great end of their existence. To convince you of this truth, close thine eyes for a moment, then look beneath the mountain, and tell me what thou seest.

I see, said Selima, a vast expanse of water, and one small island in the middle of it: a river divides it into two parts, equally productive of the conveniences of life, and traced out into numberless paths, which at length unite in one common road on each side of

of the river. This spot seems to be, by the same species of beings, but ployments and pursuits are extremely different: those on the left hand are continually toiling to amass little heaps, and gather together the various products of the soil, in much greater quantities, can possibly make use of, or, of labour, consume in riot and excess a necessary portion which is allotted their support. They travel, indeed, different paths, but their tendency is the same: and I see them successively enter into that illimitable track of wretchedness, looks full of anxiety and solicitude, and an air of the greatest gaiety and un-

To the right is exhibited a very different scene; a pleasing cheerfulness dwells on every face, except a few, whose narrow cast and disposition of mind throw them on all which they behold. These pursue the most difficult paths; they look with horror on every innocent amusement, and take even of the necessities of life with a shivering fullness and trembling, and, like wretches, they are continually wishing for the end of it. Their happier companions travel with great alacrity along the banks of the river, taste its refreshing stream with a frugal, but unsparing heart, and ever the luxuriant soil affords them